

**Sunday 11 February 2018, 19.30 hrs**  
**Bournville Community Hub**  
**27 Sycamore Road**  
**B30 2AA**

**Officers present:**

Simon Linford (Master), Arthur Reeves (Ringing Master), Clare McArdle (Secretary), Tracy Stevens (Treasurer), Mark Eccleston (Archivist), Trish Everett (Safeguarding Officer).

Fifteen members signed the attendance book, including the above-mentioned Officers.

The meeting started at 19.30

**Minutes**

|  | <b>Actions</b> |
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| <p><b>1. Apologies for absence (Officers)</b><br/>           None received.</p>  |                |
| <p><b>2. Minutes of the AGM held on 6 January 2018</b><br/>           The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.</p>   |                |
| <p><b>3. Matters arising not on the agenda</b><br/>           There were no matters arising</p>  |                |
| <p><b>4. Election of new members</b></p> <p><b>Full members:</b><br/>           AJ Barnfield (Pershore, St Andrew's Centre)<br/>           David Smith (St John's Cathedral, Brisbane)<br/>           Tim Martin (Moseley)<br/>           Ros Martin (Moseley)<br/>           Tony Kench (St Paul's Cathedral)<br/>           David Hill-Ilderton (Erdington)<br/>           Andy Foster (Harborne)<br/>           Andrew Darby<br/>           Graham Firman (Maidenhead)<br/>           Katharine Firman (Maidenhead)<br/>           Paul McNutt (Hillmorton)<br/>           David Horspool (Erdington)<br/>           Richard Pullin (London)</p> <p><b>Associate members:</b><br/>           Michael Parker (BUSCR)<br/>           Michael Gregory (Erdington)<br/>           Deborah Jewison</p> |                |

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| <p><b>5. Bell Restoration Fund</b></p> <p><b>5.1 BRF total</b><br/>The BRF total currently stands at £9,476, with £250 committed to Knowle for rebushing clappers and fitting clapper adjustment screws.</p> <p><b>5.2 Harborne sound control</b><br/>The project is estimated at £4,400 and should be completed this year. An application for funding will be forthcoming.</p> <p><b>5.3 Smethwick</b><br/>It was suggested that improvements to the odd-struckness at Smethwick would enhance them as a teaching resource. Any such project would be eligible for a BRF grant. It was recommended that an inspection be arranged by Taylor's or Whites.</p> <p><b>5.4 Castle Bromwich</b><br/>An email had been received from Richard Grimmett questioning the £10,000 payment to Castle Bromwich having been made in advance of the completion of the project. He felt that an inspection of the work should have been made prior to release of the funds.<br/>The installation is disappointing and the bells are difficult to handle. Andrew Stubbs reported that the Castle Bromwich ringers are holding Taylor's to account.<br/>It was agreed that the Guild should offer support to the Castle Bromwich ringers.</p> | <p>Steve Horton</p> <p>Simon Linford</p>                 |
| <p><b>6. HJ Dinner arrangements update</b></p> <p><b>6.1 2018</b><br/>An informal subcommittee had met earlier in the day. Ticket sales were projected at around 120. The evening's programme had been discussed and a running order agreed. There will be a seating plan for the starter and main course, but breaks for entertainment will enable more mingling.</p> <p>In addition to the Carter Ringing Machine being on show, there would be four pieces of entertainment.</p> <p>It was agreed that Chris Pickford should be asked to toast the health of Richard Jones (Chairman).</p> <p>Simon advised that the dress code would be lounge suits.</p> <p>Arthur reported that the ringing arrangements for the weekend are:<br/>An open practice at Edgbaston on Friday evening.<br/>Michael Wilby is arranging peals on the day.<br/>A peal attempt at Shirley on Sunday afternoon.</p> <p><b>6.2 2019</b><br/>It was agreed that a provisional booking of the Banqueting Suite at the Council House should be made as soon as possible.</p>   | <p>Simon Linford</p> <p>Tracy Stevens (Jenny Sunter)</p> |
| <p><b>7. Ringing World National Youth Contest Entry</b><br/>Simon reported that the Brumdingers would be entering a team in July. The team is being coached by Clare, Arthur, Tracy and Simon. The team will be strengthened by three of the St Martin's Youths who are no longer practicing as a group.</p>  |  |

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| <p><b>8. Review of AGM format</b><br/> <b>8.1 2018</b><br/> The AGM had not attracted any more members than usual, but in reality the numbers may have been reduced when taking into account the importance of the agenda of rule changes. It was unclear whether this was due to the change of format.<br/> It was agreed that we should not become slaves to format and the programme of discussions would not necessarily need to be repeated each year.</p> <p><b>8.2 2019</b><br/> Knowle was suggested as the venue for 2019.</p> <p>It was agreed to investigate a future return to St Chad's. Enquiries would be made about time constraints on hire of the hall.</p> <p>It was suggested that a later time slot of 12.00–15.00 would enable the BSoBR sessions to be run in the morning.</p>  | <p>Simon Linford</p> <p>Andrew Stubbs</p>   |
| <p><b>9. Programme of events for 2018</b><br/> A number of events were already on the calendar.</p> <p>The following events were agreed:<br/> 12 May – 6-bell striking contest. Great Barr suggested.<br/> 16 June – peal at Handsworth to coincide with beer festival<br/> 14 July – Summer Walk, Bromsgrove area (Mike Dodson)<br/> 13 October – All-comers' challenge. Moseley (tbc)<br/> It was agreed that Solihull should be informed in advance to avoid a clash with their outing.<br/> 11 November – 5 quarter peals to commemorate the 5 Guild members killed in WWI</p>   | <p>Arthur Reeves<br/> Arthur Reeves</p> <p>Arthur Reeves/Trish Everett</p> <p>Rose Horton</p> |
| <p><b>10. Steepleage rates and payments</b><br/> <b>10.1 Practice criteria</b><br/> It was agreed that the criteria for a "Guild" practice would be any practice that would usually require steepleage from participants to form the donation to the host tower.</p> <p>Steepleage donations were agreed at £15 per event. Host towers will be paid direct, with towers hosting regular events being paid quarterly. Tracy will require bank details from towers.</p> <p><b>10.2 Budget review</b><br/> Tracy had revised the budget upwards from £1,309 (based on an estimate) to £1,624 (based on a more accurate projection). She suggested that the estimated £300 shortfall on the original estimate will mostly be covered by subscriptions from new members elected during the year (£150 from members elected under item 4).</p> <p><b>10.3 Central Council meeting</b><br/> Simon reported that an additional charge of £45 per Rep was being levied for attending the CCCBR meeting, over and above the affiliation fees of £60. The imposition had caused uproar on social media. Andrew Stubbs confirmed that the charge was part of an "accommodation package" and had been dropped for Reps attending the meeting only.</p> <p>Simon noted that the meeting was being held over two days and agreed to</p> | <p>Simon Linford</p>  |

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| <p>contact our Reps to seek their views on this.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>11. Peal fees in practice</b><br/> Simon reported that Rule 6.1.3 (75% member participation in Guild peals) had caused the most chagrin of any of the rule changes agreed at the AGM. Problems associated with encouraging full membership for regular peal ringers from outside the Birmingham area include:<br/> Future reluctance if other associations follow our lead, forcing annual membership for multiple societies/associations rather than one-off payments.<br/> Administration burden on the Treasurer if a suggested “peal fee” were to be proposed and introduced.<br/> Implications for AGM quorum with an influx of members only interested in peal ringing.</p> <p>It was agreed that members would continue to try to uphold the rule for the year.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>12. Survey of Tower Captains</b><br/> <b>12.1 Survey criteria</b><br/> The survey had been suggested at the AGM to offer information to a visiting ringer on the level of ringing at individual Guild towers.</p> <p>Tracy reported that Adam Knight-Markiegi had offered to update the “Towers” page of the website and was willing to contact the tower correspondents. It was suggested that his brief could be to invite contacts to say something about their practices and build a guide to ringing in the area.</p> <p><b>12.2 Guild Directory</b><br/> Clare agreed that the Directory could include the information gathered by Adam. It was further agreed that the map would be deleted.</p>  | <p>Tracy Stevens (Adam Knight-Markiegi)</p>  |
| <p><b>13. AOB</b><br/> <b>13.1 GDPR</b><br/> The General Data Protection Regulation will come into force from 25 May 2018. Under GDPR consent will become a restricted concept in that it must be freely given, specific, informed and an unambiguous indication of the data subject’s wishes.</p> <p>Trish Everett agreed to document a policy for the Guild.</p> <p>It was agreed that membership lapses should be reported at general meetings and associated member data subsequently deleted.</p> <p>It was agreed that a new membership form would be required to conform with GDPR. It was further agreed that all members should be required to complete the new membership form to update member data.</p> <p>It was agreed that from this year the Report and Directory should not include the “Directory of Guild Members” until members’ consent had been gained.</p> <p><b>13.2 Final version of new rules</b><br/> Simon reported that he had identified minor modifications that are required to the new rules. He agreed to formulate the amendments</p> | <p>Trish Everett</p> <p>Tracy Stevens/Clare McArdle</p> <p>Clare McArdle</p> <p>Clare McArdle</p> <p>Simon Linford</p> |

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| <p>and propose them four months prior to the AGM.</p> <p><b>13.3 Meeting minutes</b><br/> Simon suggested that minutes of meetings should not exceed 2 pages and should be formatted to focus on actions to be taken. An alternative view was voiced that the minutes are a historical record of the Guild and decisions need to be reported in context.</p> <p>An actions column will be added to future minutes.</p> <p><b>13.4 Safeguarding update</b><br/> Trish reported that she had a meeting with the Diocese for an update on 22 February and that she would report back.</p> <p><b>13.5 Guild Badge</b><br/> It was agreed that a new Guild badge should be produced using the new Guild logo as the design.</p> <p><b>13.6 Guild Clothing</b><br/> Clare reported that samples of Guild clothing with the new logo had been purchased and sales images would be updated.</p> <p><b>13.6 Tewkesbury Shield</b><br/> Arthur reported that the Guild's entry in the Tewkesbury Shield had been successful and that he was in the process of organising the band who will represent the Guild.</p> <p><b>13.7 Date of next meeting</b><br/> 22 April, venue to be confirmed – availability of the Woodman to be ascertained.</p> <p>15 July suggested for the meeting after.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21.13</p> | <p>Clare McArdle</p> <p>Trish Everett</p> <p>Clare McArdle</p> <p>Clare McArdle</p> |
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